

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

part of Cloverfields

AND/OR COMMON

John Benton Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

approx. 1 3/4 miles northeast of Stevensville

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

4th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Queen Anne's

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

John C. Benton

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Stevensville

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21666

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Queen Anne's County Courthouse

Liber #: WHC 6

Folio #: 17

Wills #: WTB 3

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Courthouse Square

Folio #: 468

CITY, TOWN

Centreville

STATE

Maryland 21617

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

QA-298B

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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## 19th Century Dwelling House:

Constructed on the foundations of an 18th century building (QA-298 A), the present house rests in an open stand of large locust trees, overlooking the mouth of the Chester River.

Of frame construction, the main house is 2 1/2 stories high, with one-story porches on each facade, and one flush brick chimney centered on each gable end. A steeply pitched gable is centered on each facade, flanked by a pair of gable-roofed dormer windows. The fenestration is symmetrical, five bays wide, with two windows flanking the chimney on each floor of the south gable. A two story frame wing extending from the north gable of the main house is three bays wide, and appears to be original.

The principal facade faces west, away from the water, and is expressed by a wide double door in the center bay. The doors are paneled, with heavy Victorian moldings, and the entrance is set off by sidelights and a transom. The east door is a single paneled door, without sidelights or transom. All of the windows on the first and second floor are

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION

the large two-over-two sash typical of the Victorian period. Smaller two-over-two windows with segmentally arched upper sash are employed in the gables and the dormers.

The interior is laid out in a center-hall plan, with a single room on either side of the stair hall, and access to the wing through a door in the north room. The most distinguishing feature of the interior is the staircase. Rising three floors, with a landing between each floor, the stair features walnut railings and newels, contrasting oak ballusters, and decorated end brackets on each step.

Though houses of this general type are quite common throughout this region, this house stands out as a particularly well proportioned example, with an air of refinement gained by the decorative doors, arched windows, and a deep molded box cornice that returns at the gables.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The large frame farmhouse that survives today on the Benton farm was built on the brick foundation of an earlier house, and is representative of the predominant house form adopted throughout Tidewater Maryland in the latter half of the 19th century. This particular building is somewhat larger than usual, and derives considerable charm from the peaked gables, open porches, and overall massing, ideally suited to the ambient nature of the site. Architectural details worthy of note include the central entrance on the west facade and an exceptional Victorian stair.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Orlando Ridout V, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Queen Anne's County Historical Society

DATE

6/26/78

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Centreville

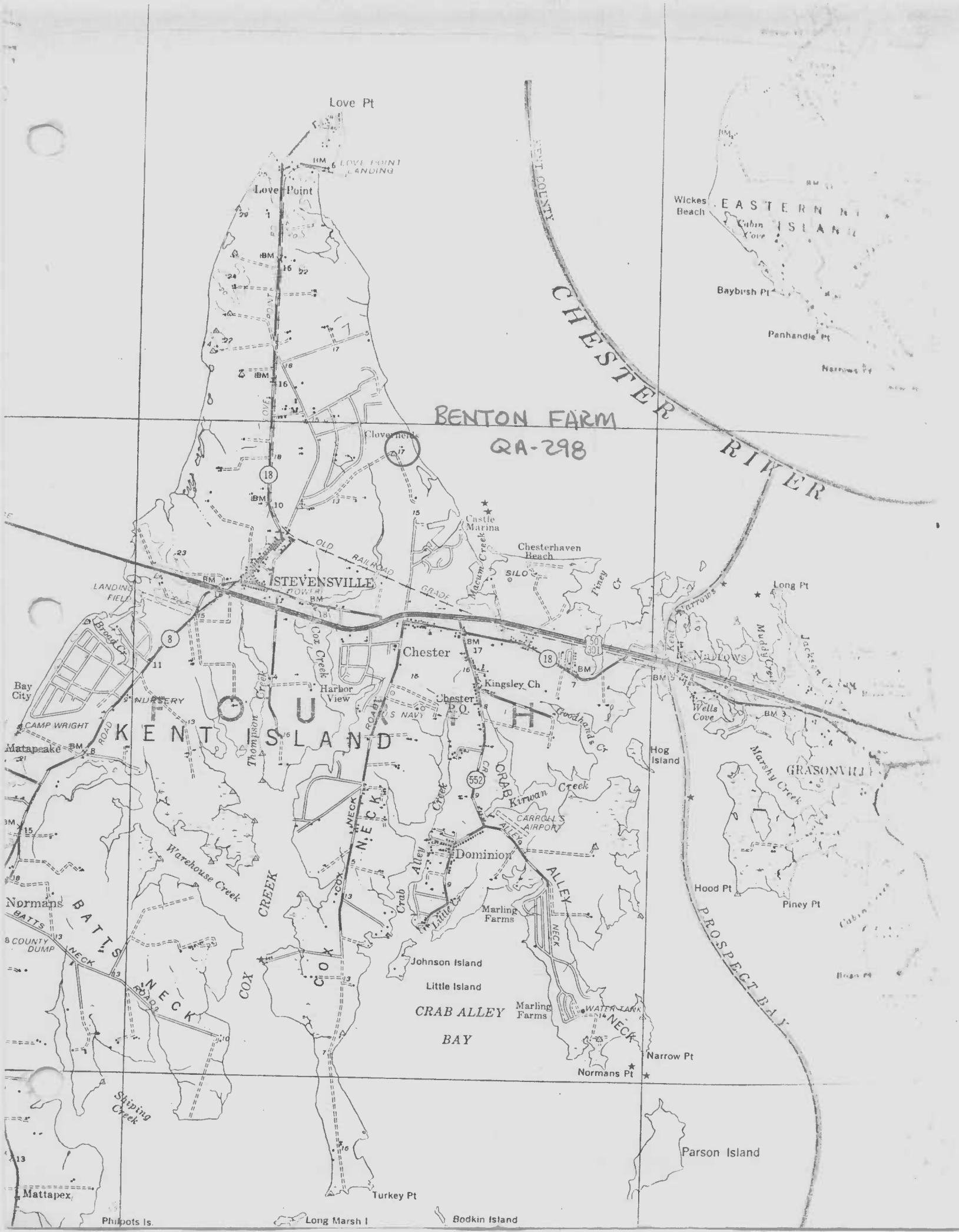
STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





QA-298B Benton farm  
Kent Island  
ORV 1978